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Dkt. 2271/69840

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Shinya NARUMI et al.

Serial No.: 10/618,244

Group Art Unit: 2653

Date Filed: July 11, 2003

Examiner: Tawfik Goma

For: OPTICAL INFORMATION RECORDING MEDIUM, METHOD FOR DETERMINING RECORDING CONDITION, OPTICAL INFORMATION RECORDING APPARATUS, AND INFORMATION PROCESSING APPARATUS

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited this date with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner, for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.


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May 5, 2006

Date

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Commissioner for Patents
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Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to the applicant's duty of disclosure, the information listed in the attached Form PTO-1449 is brought to the attention of the Examiner.

It is respectfully requested that the information cited in annexed Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application, and that such art be made of record in said application.

The information listed in the Form PTO-1449 was cited in a February 21, 2006 official Communication and European Search Report in connection with corresponding European Application No. EP 03 25 4394. A copy of the February 21, 2006 Communication and European Search Report is enclosed herewith.

The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that these items are prior art. The items listed are

submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of the particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

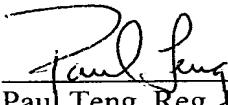
According to the August 5, 2003 OG Notice published by the Patent and Trademark Office, the Office has waived the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each cited U.S. patent application publication for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003 and for all international application that have entered the national stage under 35 U.S.C. §371 after June 30, 2003.

Accordingly, copies are submitted herewith for only references listed on the annexed Form PTO-1449 that are not a U.S. patent or U.S. patent application publication.

Applicant requests consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)(1). Each item of information listed in the attached Form PTO-1449 was cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior hereto. Accordingly, no fees are believed to be required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement.

However, the Patent Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees that are required for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement and to credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,



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Form PTO-1449		U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office								Atty. Docket No. 2271/69840	Serial No. 10/618,244			
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary)										Applicants: Shinya NARUMI et al.				
										Filing Date: July 11, 2003	Group Art Unit: 2653			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS														
Examiner Initial		Document Number				Date		Name		Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate		
		5	8	3	5	4	6	2	11/10/1998	Mimnagh				
		20	01	/0	05	31	15	A1	12/20/2001	Nobukuni et al.				
		6	4	1	1	5	7	5	06/25/2002	Akiyama et al.				
		6	5	5	2	9	8	2	04/22/2003	Fukushima et al.				
		6	7	9	1	9	2	6	09/14/2004	Furumiya et al.				
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS														
		Document Number				Date		Country	Class	Subclass	Translation			
		EP	1	0	2	6	6	7	1	A1	08/09/2000	Europe		
		EP	1	0	3	5	5	3	9	A1	09/13/2000	Europe		
		EP	1	0	5	9	6	3	0	A1	12/13/2000	Europe		
		EP	1	1	8	2	6	4	9	A1	02/27/2002	Europe		
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)														
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED										
<small>*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609: Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</small>														